

# **CURRICULUM VITAE**

of

**Peter R. Leffe, BsME, MArch, AIA, NCARB**

**Architect, Mechanical Engineer with Metallurgy,  
Airline Transport Pilot**

Address: P.O. Box 1331  
Venice, California 90294  
Phone: 310-346-1116

Revision date: August 2014

## **PROFESSIONAL SPECIALIZATION**

Accident investigation, reconstruction and failure analysis. All forms of mechanical equipment and vehicle inspection including failure analysis. Design defect analysis, structural analysis and reconstruction. Analysis of controls, redundant systems, placement, use, design and warnings. Metallurgical analysis, fatigue failure, stress corrosion cracking and stress analysis. Architectural and construction consulting including failure analysis and design reviews. Winter sports equipment failure analysis. Ski technique and skier responsibility evaluation.

Court qualified in State and Federal courts, accident investigation, reconstruction, design, failure mode; aircraft, mechanical equipment, winter sports, construction defects, slip-trip and fall, vehicle braking systems, seat belts and others. Consultation, analysis and as needed, courtroom testimony, participation in more than 250 cases over the past 20 years.

## **EDUCATION**

Bachelor of Science, Mechanical Engineering with Metallurgy,  
Indiana Institute of Technology, 1963-1968

Master of Architecture  
University of California, Berkeley 1973-1976

Diplomate, National Council of Architectural Registration Boards (NCARB), 1991

Federal Aviation Administration, Airline Transport Pilot, licensure, 1995

Certificate, Aircraft Accident Investigation  
School of Engineering, University of Southern California, 1997

Federal Aviation Administration, Aviation Safety Counselor training, 2001

National Transportation Safety Board, First Responder training and certification, 2005

European Society of Air Safety Investigators course: Air Accident Investigation in the European Environment, Cranfield University, Bedfordshire, England 2008

Federal Aviation Administration, Airframe and Powerplant Mechanic, licensure, 2012

## **PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATION MEMBERSHIPS**

Member, American Institute of Architects (AIA)

Member, American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME)

Member, ASTM International (ASTM)

Member, International Society of Air Safety Investigators (ISASI)

Member, International Society for Skiing Safety (ISSS)

Member, Experimental Aircraft Association (EAA)

Member, Warbird Operators of America, Association

Former Member, NASA Astronaut Candidate Pool

## **LICENSES**

Registered Professional Architect

Federal Aviation Administration, Airline Transport Pilot

Federal Aviation Administration, Airframe and Powerplant Mechanic

## **SCHOLARSHIPS AND AWARDS**

The American Institute of Architects

Waid Scholarship, 1974

The American Institute of Architects,

Institute Scholar, 1975

Experimental Aircraft Association

T-18 Award, 1985

## **TEACHING**

Indiana Institute of Technology

Teaching Assistant in Metallurgy

University of California at Berkeley

Teaching Fellowship in Structural Engineering

University of California at Berkeley

Teaching Assistant in Environmental Design  
Check pilot, Airpower Aviation Resources  
Siai Marchetti Aircraft Distributor, USA  
United States Navy Test Pilot School, Qualitative Evaluation Program  
Safety/Instructor Pilot SF-260 aircraft  
National Test Pilot School  
Safety/Instructor Pilot SF-260 aircraft

## **PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

Associate Engineer/Scientist, McDonnell Douglas Aircraft Corp., Long Beach, CA  
Design engineering services group involved in design of wing structural components DC 10 and assigned to the Acoustic Research Group involved in the noise reduction program and testing of porous media. 1968 -

Research Associate in Environmental Design, The Farallones Institute, Berkeley, CA  
Responsible for the design of geodesic and inflatable structures under a grant from the Ford Foundation and the Rosenberg Foundation. 1970 -

Product and Architectural Design, Berkeley, CA  
Responsible for Architectural products and small Architecture projects. 1973 -

Architectural Intern and Engineer, The Architectural Group, Jackson, Wyoming  
Responsible for Architectural design of residential and commercial projects.  
Provided engineering on projects and structural engineering consultation. 1976 -

Vice President, Pacific Western Psychiatric Medical Group.  
Group Architect, responsible for architectural renovation of 18 hospital units in the Southern California area, the management of physician employees, manager of intellectual property and litigation matters. 1981 -

Consulting Professional Architect and Engineer, Wyoming and California  
General practice of Architecture 1989-present

Consulting Architect  
Consultation for litigation 1994-present

Consulting Mechanical Engineer and Metallurgist  
Consultation for litigation 1994-present

Consulting Airline Transport Pilot,  
Consultation for litigation 1994-present

Professional Pilot

Advanced aircraft instruction 1995-present  
Aircraft ferry services  
Chief Aviation Safety Counselor, Federal Aviation Administration 1999-2006  
General Aviation Operations  
Los Angeles International Airport  
  
Federal Aviation Administration, FAAST Aviation Safety Team  
All airports, Southern California Region 2007-present

### **TELEVISED & RADIO DOCUMENTARY APPEARANCES**

Appeared on the History Channel program “Decoding the Past” for the analysis of aviation accidents in the Bermuda Triangle (Two hour special), 2006

Numerous appearances and interviews on Spike TV as an expert

Radio interviews as an aviation accident expert for the Associated Press, commenting on probable cause of various accidents.

Radio interview on National Public Radio as an Aviation Expert

Radio interviews in the field of Architecture at the AIA National Convention.

**Peter R. Leffe**  
**Airline Transport Pilot, Aviation Accident Investigator**

### **Curriculum Vitae Supplement** **AVIATION**

Specialization: Aviation accident investigation and reconstruction. Wreckage analysis, structural reconstruction, design defect analysis. Power plant teardowns, analysis and testing. Maintenance reviews including reviews of airframe and power plant log books. Systems analysis and redundant system integration analysis.

Piloting, flight plan analysis, pilot actions, qualifications and training. Pilot decision making, control input analysis, other pilot actions and decisions related to safety of flight.

Failure analysis of materials and structures. Stress corrosion cracking including the analysis of the inter-relationship of environment to component failure.

Flight path reconstruction using in-flight reconstruction of radar traces and Global Positioning System tracking. Flight testing of aircraft and systems.

#### Specialty Education:

Certificate, Aircraft Accident Investigation, School of Engineering,  
University of Southern California, 1997

Federal Aviation Administration, Aviation Safety Counselor training, 2001

NTSB, first responder training and certification, 2005

European Society of Air Safety Investigators Course: Air Accident Investigation  
in the European Environment, Cranfield University, Bedfordshire, England 2008

#### Licenses:

##### Pilot Qualifications:

FAA: Private Pilot  
Instrument Pilot  
Commercial Pilot  
Airline Transport Pilot

##### Aircraft Mechanic Qualifications:

FAA: Airframe and Powerplant Mechanic  
FAA: Repairman Experimental Aircraft

#### Awards:

Experimental Aircraft Association Convention, T-18 Award  
San Diego Fly-In Best Metal Experimental  
Watsonville Fly-In, Best T-18  
Café 400 Air Race competitor

#### Aviation Experience:

Licensed pilot for 54 years

High altitude qualification  
High performance and complex aircraft qualified  
Tail wheel qualified with over 900 hours  
Turbo prop aircraft qualification  
Aerobatic Pilot  
Aviation Safety Counselor, Los Angeles International Airport  
NTSB, First Responder  
Former member, NASA Astronaut candidate pool

Aviation Instruction:

U.S. Navy Test Pilot School, Qual Eval Program, safety/instructor pilot  
National Test Pilot School, Qual Eval Program, safety pilot/flight engineer  
Empire Test Pilot School, Qual Eval Program, safety/instructor pilot  
Contributor, The History Channel, aviation accident investigator & commentator  
Instructor Pilot for Siai Marchetti SF-260 Aircraft, Airpower Aviation Resources  
Instructor for Complex and High Performance training and certification  
FAA Authorized Instructor

Memberships:

Member, International Society of Air Safety Investigators  
Member, The Experimental Aircraft Association  
Member, The Warbirds of America

## Peter R. Leffe Fees

Airline Transport Pilot, Aviation Accident Investigator

Address: P.O. Box 1331

Venice, California 90294

Phone: 310-346-1116

Investigation, Research and Reports:.....\$500/hour

Retainer to begin work (non-refundable):.....\$5,000

Field inspections (half day minimum).....\$715/hr.

Deposition testimony (2 Hr. Min).....\$825/hour

Trial Testimony:.....\$6,575/day

Research Support: Technical Assistant for information gathering.....\$215/hr.

Clerical Support: Deposition summaries, large reports, copying, etc...\$145/hr.

### Travel:

Local area: Normal billing rate (within 50 miles)

Out of area: Air and/or auto travel time at 50% of regular rate

Long distance travel: By special arrangement

Overnight: Hotel at cost + per diem \$180/day

Other expenses: Billed at cost

Flights longer than two hours: Economy plus or next higher class above economy

### Field reconstruction:

Rate varies based upon complexity and associated risk

### Weekend work:

If weekend work is required to meet your deadline it is billed at 1.5 times the actual time

Terms: Net 30 Days. A charge of 1.5% per month will be added to all past due accounts.

Deposition Testimony past four years

Barber v. 3M      June 11, 2019